

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that both the 'non-final' and 'final' boxes were checked on the Office Action. Since this Office Action comes after a Request for Continued Examination in which the claims were amended, Applicants understand that this should be a non-final Office Action. Applicants contacted the Examiner and he confirmed that this Office Action is non-final.

The claims have been amended to better define them. Support for the changes can be found, for example, on page 18, lines 18-30 and Table 1 of the specification.

Claims 7 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, with regard to the written description to support the feature of completing the second NXX call which includes sending a response message to the service control point. These claims have been amended to change 'service control point' to 'service switching point,' as claimed originally.

Claims 1 and 4-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lewis et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,537,464) in view of Andruska et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,574,780). Applicants respectfully traverse since neither Lewis et al. nor Andruska et al. disclose nor suggest that "only calls having an automatic number identification and a determined station type associated therewith are acceptable for completion."

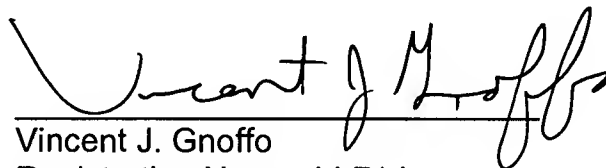
Lewis et al. discloses means for assembling and signaling billing information and caller-dialed-number information to a service provider in the voice channel during call setup to connecting carriers. The service provider is able to utilize the billing information and the caller-dialed-number information for making the decision to deny a call requesting the service information. This enables the service provider to limit services to only those callers for whom service fees can be charged to the caller's telephone bill. A local exchange performs digit analysis and translation before routing the call to the service provider. A local exchange carrier may translate a caller-dialed 7-

digit 555 number into a ten-digit phantom number and then passes the call to the appropriate carrier assigned the ten-digit routing plan. It is not disclosed that only calls having an automatic number identification and a determined station type are acceptable for completion.

Andruska et al. discloses a telecommunication network including a switch that supports subscribers coupled switch and recognizes a request for call origination by a calling party on an associated communication line. The request for call origination services seeks services from a second switch. Upon receiving a call and signaling, switch 28 is programmed to query the SCP 34 data base for an appropriate carrier ID or CIC for the subscriber. The SCP 34 provides the public routing number to switch 28 so that the call can be routed. It is not disclosed that only calls having an automatic number identification and a determined station type are acceptable for completion.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (312) 321-4224 if there are any outstanding issues that could be resolved through a telephone conference.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vincent J. Gnoffo", written over a horizontal line.

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